

768

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

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SEP 25 2015

Nat. Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service

## 1. Name of Property

Historic name: Foster Farm Barn  
Other names/site number: Foster Barn at Winterberry Farm (preferred for listing)  
Name of related multiple property listing: N/A  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

## 2. Location

Street & number: 538 Augusta Road  
City or town: Belgrade State: Maine County: Kennebec  
Not For Publication: N/A Vicinity: N/A

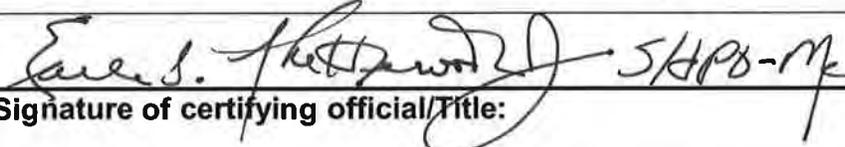
## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:  
 national  statewide  local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A  B  C  D

		<u>9/18/15</u>
Signature of certifying official/Title: <u>SHPB-M</u>		Date
<b>MAINE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION</b>		
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government		

In my opinion, the property <input type="checkbox"/> meets <input type="checkbox"/> does not meet the National Register criteria.	
Signature of commenting official:	Date
Title	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

**FOSTER BARN AT WINTERBERRY FARM**

**KENNEBEC COUNTY**

Name of Property

County and State

**4. National Park Service Certification**

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:)

*For Edson H. Beall*  
Signature of the Keeper

*11.9.15*  
Date of Action

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

**Category of Property**

(Check only one box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

**FOSTER BARN AT WINTERBERRY FARM**  
Name of Property

**KENNEBEC COUNTY**  
County and State

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	0	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

AGRICULTURE / SUBSISTENCE / Agricultural outbuilding

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

AGRICULTURE / SUBSISTENCE / Agricultural outbuilding

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**KENNEBEC COUNTY**  
County and State

**FOSTER BARN AT WINTERBERRY FARM**  
Name of Property

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Other: Gambrel roof barn  
Other: Ground level stable barn

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Metal roof, concrete, stone and wood post foundation, and walls covered with wood boards or wood shingle.

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

**Summary Paragraph**

The Foster Barn at Winterberry Farm is a large, two-story gambrel roof building that demonstrates emerging agricultural practices and construction techniques from the turn of the twentieth century. Built between 1900 and 1910 by a farm family that focused agriculture and animal husbandry, the barn is outfitted with "modern" features, including ventilation hatches in the walls, dedicated ventilation ducts leading from the tie-ups to the roof ventilators, and cement floors with manure gutters and a ceiling-mounted manure trolley. Structurally, the building has a post-Civil War framing pattern of common rafters, collar ties, wind braces and braced struts, but much of the frame utilizes two or three 2" x 8" dimensional planks lagged together (with or without a spacer block) to form "beams" or "posts" of the size used in traditional post and beam construction. Interestingly, only the first floor level of the exterior walls has ever been shingled – the upper levels of the barn have exposed sheathing. The Foster Barn at Winterberry Farm is still in active agricultural use, and has had few significant alterations other than re-building the stalls in the former south bay, inserting a chicken coop in the southwest corner, and replacing worn flooring in the north bay. The barn retains a high level of integrity reflecting its period of initial construction.

**FOSTER BARN AT WINTERBERRY FARM**

Name of Property

**KENNEBEC COUNTY**  
County and State

**Narrative Description**

The Foster Barn is located on the 40 acre Winterberry Farm in Belgrade, Kennebec County Maine. The farm is located on the east side of the Augusta Road and contains a recent farm stand on the north and the farmhouse, a c. 1900 two story vernacular building with modest Italianate detailing, to the south. The barn is located east of the farm stand and northeast of the house, at the end of a driveway that also passes the farm stand. South of the barn is a large garden plot and east of this the grade of the land drops as the farm slopes eastward towards Great Pond. Several large green houses are positioned among the cultivated fields on this part of the farm.

Exterior

The Foster Barn measures approximately 70' 4" by 41' 5" and is oriented with the long ridge running east to west and the façade faces west. The two-story side walls rise fourteen feet to the plate and support a two-pitched gambrel roof covered with a corrugated metal roof. The curb of the roof is approximately 27' 9" and the ridge is 35' from the sills. Two round, sheet metal ventilators are positioned astride the ridge and between these are several lightning rods with decorative glass balls. The eaves of the roof flare out with a slight bend beyond the side walls. Worn wooden shingles clad the lower level of the barn, and vertical boards are used as trim pieces on the corners. There is no rake trim, fascia or frieze. The foundation consists of a concrete slab at grade and short concrete, stone or wood posts or piers up to the sills and interior floor structure. The south and east ends of the building have a solid concrete base which forms the concrete floors in the milking parlor and stable area.

The exterior composition of the building is functional and well-proportioned. The west façade has a large central entrance with two-external sliding wood batten doors. The track for the door rollers is covered with a wooden box over which is a layer of wooden shingles. To either side of the sliding doors is a single six-over-six sash window. Two other windows, with a one-over-one sash configuration, are positioned in the center of the upper wall halfway between the top of the door track and the ridge. Each of the windows has flat stock board trim. North of the door the wall is shingled to a height of about seven feet but south of the door it is shingled as high as the door track. The south elevation has nine-bays: three window bays to the west followed by a pedestrian door and then five additional window bays. The windows on this side are oriented horizontally: four of the eight opening have fixed eight-light sash and the others do not contain any sash (although all the windows are trimmed and have sills). The wall is shingled only to the top of the windows. The east elevation has a large sliding door on an external track in the southeast corner and two window openings, sans sash, to the north. The wall is shingled several courses higher than the south wall and the cladding extends above the height of the door. As with the front elevation there are two one-over-one windows high in the wall. There are five window bays on the north elevation. Each is sized to take a six-over-six sash but only the westernmost bay is actually filled. The remaining bays have been shuttered from the interior. The east end of the wall has been shingled three courses above the windows and the first bay in the west is shingled to the top of the window but the mid-section of this elevation contains no shingles at all.

**FOSTER BARN AT WINTERBERRY FARM**

Name of Property

**KENNEBEC COUNTY**

County and State

On the west, south and east elevations the walls also feature small rectangular openings located about eight feet above the sills (and on the interior, in the ceiling, just under the second floor framing). The openings are lined with sheet metal and once through the wall they make a right angle bend and turn downward through the ceiling of the first floor. They function as part of an air –exchange system for the animal quarters. There is one vent on the façade and four each on the south and west walls.

Interior Plan

On the interior the building is divided into three longitudinal bays of differing widths: the south bay is approximately thirteen feet wide, the central bay or aisle is twelve feet five inches wide, and the north bay is sixteen feet wide. The north bay was used for hay storage and the south bay was the milking parlor or tie-up for the cows. The building has six bents with two on the end walls and four interior bents. A first-floor partition wall positioned along the fifth bent at the west end of the north and central bays creates a transverse rear bay used originally as the stable. There is also a partition wall running between the center and south bays, thus creating an “L” shaped interior space at the west end and south bay of the building. A batten door is positioned between these two spaces, but they share several features including solid concrete floors and horizontal sheathing on the interior walls. The tie-up (south bay) also has whitewash on the walls and a sixteen-inch wide manure gutter in the floor just aft of the current box stalls. Track from a ceiling-mounted automated manure trolley is found above the gutter in the tie-up and along the east wall of the stable. While the wide gutter does not exist in the latter room, there are three sets of 4” wide channels in the floor (now filled-in with wood) that may have also been used for waste management. In the stable there are four stalls with wooden feed bins on a concrete platform: there are also hinged wooden windows in the partition wall in front of each stall.

The tie-up also has windows in the partition wall between the south and central bay, although in this wall they are lower, longer, and hinged at the top. Currently there are seven box stalls in the tie-up and an enclosed chicken coop in the southwest corner.

The northern third of the barn has a partition wall under the second bent creating a three-sided room in the northwest corner. This space currently is used for distribution of agricultural products. The next three bents were historically part of the hay mow or used for equipment storage. The floor in this section of the barn has been replaced with new plank flooring. The center aisle retains its old plank flooring.

The second floor of the barn is reached by a staircase positioned along the tie-up partition wall. Most of this level has a floor, with the exception of two and a half bays over the center aisle and one bay over the north aisle.<sup>1</sup> The second floor sits on transverse joists that run between the longitudinal aisle beams. Cross-bracing between the joists provides extra-stiffness to the floor. A small enclosed room has been constructed to store wood shavings in the southwest

<sup>1</sup> While it is clear that a portion of the loft floor over the center aisle between the third and fourth bents has been removed, it does not appear that there was ever a loft over the second bay on the north side. This suggests that the mow extended from sill to plate in this bay, which is not unusual.

**FOSTER BARN AT WINTERBERRY FARM**

Name of Property

**KENNEBEC COUNTY**

County and State

corner of the loft. Over the west end of the center aisle is a high scaffold at the level of the collar ties. The track for a hay-fork is positioned under the ridge for the length of the barn. The common rafters meet without a ridge pole.

Visible from the loft are three metal ducts that rise from the loft floor along the sidewall of the second floor and then under the rafters to the ridge where they meet the roof ventilators. Two of these ducts are located along the south wall and the third is in the eastern end of the north wall. They are made of sheet metal and covered with a fibrous insulation. The shafts end in the ceilings of the tie-up and stable, and are visible as round openings with metal flanges attached to the ceiling boards and a metal baffle within the opening.

Frame

The framing plan is of a common design found in Maine barns constructed after the Civil War. Two-story studs -two-feet on center- rise to a plate on the exterior walls and two-story posts rise to a collar tie (or girt) along the interior aisle. Sleeper beams between the interior posts form the longitudinal support for the loft joists. Common rafters rise from the top plate to the curb plate and from there another set rises to the ridge. Jack rafters rise from the collar ties to the curb plate and are braced by interior rafters that rise from the ends of the collar ties. The jack rafters also have longitudinal braces to the curb plate and a stiffener plank runs horizontally from the jack rafter to the interior rafter. There are plank wind braces on the second floor exterior walls and another set in the lower section of the roof.

Very few of the framing sticks in the Foster Barn are solid wood: the vast majority of them are 2 x 6 planks nailed together in groups of two or three to make structural posts or beams. In some instances a pair of 2 x 6s are nailed to either side of a spacer block producing an intermittent void that is sometimes used to lap onto the center extension of another built-up beam. The only visible solid beams are the 6 x 6 sleeper beams positioned between the interior posts along the aisles. Exterior corners are formed of a pair of 2 x 6 planks nailed at right angles to each other. The interior posts are three-planks thick, the collar ties two-planks thick with blocks over the outer bays and three-planks thick over the center aisle, and the jack rafters are two-planks thick with blocks. The top plates and curb plates are made of three planks. All of the common rafters, the interior rafters, the joists, and the studs are single 2 x 6 planks, as are the angle braces to the curb plate, the stiffener planks and the wind braces. All the planks appear to be fastened by nail or bolts.

**FOSTER BARN AT WINTERBERRY FARM**  
Name of Property

**KENNEBEC COUNTY**  
County and State

### 8. Statement of Significance

#### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

#### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

**FOSTER BARN AT WINTERBERRY FARM**  
Name of Property

**KENNEBEC COUNTY**  
County and State

**Areas of Significance** (Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

c. 1900-1910

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person** (Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**FOSTER BARN AT WINTERBERRY FARM**  
Name of Property

**KENNEBEC COUNTY**  
County and State

### Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph

(Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.) (Refer to photographs)

The barn that the Foster brothers, F. C. and E. L. Foster, built around the turn of the century on their farm in Belgrade, Maine exhibits a transition from a traditional, timber-framed, mixed-use barn to a more modern building focused on dairy farming. The transition is seen in the spatial plan of the barn, the equipment utilized in the building and in the materials used in constructing and framing the structure. Each of these features reflects the family's increased focus on dairy farming. The Foster Barn at Winterberry Farm is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C for its architectural significance as an example of a type agricultural building that was evolving in the early twentieth century.

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### Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

The Foster barn was erected with a large gambrel roof, no cellar or basement, and extensive lofts for hay storage on a modified New England plan. Most barns in Maine erected a generation or more earlier contained large doors at both gable end walls and had a continuous center aisle. Tie-ups for milking or sheltering a few cows and stables for horses and oxen occupied one of the outside aisles and hay storage was in the other side aisle and on lofts above. This arrangement was adequate for a family that kept a few livestock and grew produce for their own use, but did not work as well for larger dairy herds. In contrast the Foster barn adopted a plan that installed a transverse stable in the last quarter of the barn. This stable was used to house a few horses and oxen – livestock that would have shared quarters in the tie-up in a traditional barn. The tie-up was still located in the south aisle, but was dedicated solely to cows. Although the number of original stanchions is unknown the dimensions of the milking parlor suggest that there could easily have been at least eight and perhaps as many as twelve stalls.

The size of the north-aisle mow was reduced by the insertion of the stable, yet at the same time a larger number of cows required an increase in the amount of hay stored in the building. The practical solution to this problem was to change the roof from a gable to a gambrel form. Although a handful of gambrel roof barns have dotted the Maine landscape since the early nineteenth century, it was not until the last decades of the century that a change-over to this form of agricultural outbuilding occurred on a large scale. As summarized by Thomas Visser, who wrote the Field Guide to New England Barns and Farm Buildings:

By the late nineteenth century some New England farmers were building their bank barns with gambrel roofs. Also known as a curb roof, the double slopes of the gambrel offer more volume in the hayloft, without increasing the height of the

**FOSTER BARN AT WINTERBERRY FARM**

**KENNEBEC COUNTY**  
County and State

Name of Property

side walls. As *The Cultivator and County Gentleman* observed in 1871: Many farmers prefer the curb roof to their barns, as being more compact in shape, or possessing more capacity for the exterior covering employed. The greater height above the plates forms no objection where the pitching is done by the horse-fork.<sup>2</sup>

In general, gambrel roof barns were erected by those agriculturalists in Maine who had made a shift from diversified family farming to dairy farming, and for whom putting by a large store of fodder and bedding was integral to their operation. The efficiency of gambrel roof barns was touted in the agricultural press and designs for examples large and small were offered in builders' guides.

In addition to providing a large hay loft, the design of the Foster barn took into account new technology and advances in agricultural science, again as explained by Visser:

By the early twentieth century the availability of mechanized power, the desire to improve sanitation, and the development of concrete as a common building material helped agricultural engineers develop a new approach to dairy barn design: the ground-level stable barn. With the discovery that the bacteria responsible for tuberculosis can pass through the digestive system and remain active in the airborne dust of manure, agricultural engineers sought ways to reduce the spread of the disease by improving ventilation to reduce dust levels in barns. The resulting improved barn design standards also called for increased interior light levels to help reduce bacterial growth. As the name implies, the main floor level in a ground-level stable barn is at grade. With no manure basement, the problems of odors and disease-carrying dust in the air are greatly reduced. A four- or five-inch thick concrete slab poured over compacted gravel typically serves as a floor for the cow stables....At their tail ends, a shallow gutter is recessed in the concrete to gather the manure.<sup>3</sup>

The 1908 *Seventh Annual Report of the Commissioner of Agriculture of the State of Maine* contained a paper by J.M. Trueman, professor at the University of Connecticut entitled "The Dairy Stable". In this essay Trueman outlines the five most important features necessary for a dairy barn to produce clean milk: light, ventilation, a "tight, properly constructed floor", a convenient and comfortable tie-up and smooth walls and tight ceilings.<sup>4</sup>

It appears the Fosters were aware of this "new approach to dairy barn design". The barn they built includes several features advocated by the agricultural engineers. The tie-ups and stables had concrete slab floors with manure gutters. A manure trolley used to clean out the gutters ran on an overhead track ran from the stable through the tie-ups. The walls and ceilings were

<sup>2</sup> Thomas D. Visser, *Field Guide to New England Barns and Farm Buildings* (Hanover, NH: University Press of New England, 1997), 82-83.

<sup>3</sup> Visser, 97-98.

<sup>4</sup> Prof. J. M. Trueman, "The Dairy Stable" in *Agriculture of Maine: Seventh Annual Report of the Commissioner of the Maine Board of Agriculture*, A. W. Gilman, Commissioner (Waterville: Sentinel Press, 1909), p 13.

**FOSTER BARN AT WINTERBERRY FARM**

**KENNEBEC COUNTY**  
County and State

Name of Property

both finished on the interior with sheathing and then whitewashed. Under the ridge was a track and pulley system for a hay fork.<sup>5</sup> Large windows provided light for the livestock.

Particular attention was paid to ventilation in the Foster Barn. Trueman notes that "the value of fresh air cannot be over-estimated, but its admission to the barn, especially in our cold northern winters, should be properly controlled...The King system [of ventilation] is probably the best that has been worked out...it provides for an inlet of cold air near the ceiling, where the air is warmest. The cold air as it descends mixes more or less with the warm air...the stale air is drawn off through chutes opening near the floor and running up through the bar to the roof."<sup>6</sup> Indeed, the Foster's barn include the three features of the King system: an aerator on the roof, foul air flues and fresh air intakes. In both the stable and tie-up there are several L-shaped, metal lined air shafts or flues that take in fresh air from the exterior through the ceilings. To further continue the air exchange, three large round air shafts (two in the tie-up and one in the stable) climb the exterior walls and rise along the rafters to the ridge cupolas. These flues have baffles in the ceiling of the tie-up and stable. The flues are much like those described and depicted by the King Ventilating Company in a catalog of building material as "made of galvanized steel, and thoroughly insulated to prevent moisture from condensing inside the flues. They are equipped with control dampers and doors."<sup>7</sup>

Whether intentional or not, the fact that the upper levels of the barn were never shingled also helped prevent heat and moisture from accumulating in the stored hay.

It is in the framing plan that the transitional nature of the building is most evident. As noted above the barn has three longitudinal aisles, of which the north and central aisle are shortened by the layout of the back stable area. The majority of New England style, gambrel-roof, common-rafter barns are constructed of bents consisting of vertical wall posts and posts on either side of the center aisle. The posts are connected by transverse tie beams. Angled jack rafters extend from the tie beams to the curb plate, where the angle of the roof brakes. A interior vertical support roughly parallels the lower wall rafters and runs from the tie beam to the jack rafter. Additional angled braces run from the jack rafter to the curb plates. Above the sills longitudinal stiffness is provided by wall plates, curb plates, and girders positioned between the aisle posts. In some barns these plates and girders are continuous, in others they are positioned between the vertical posts. Most of the large members are hewn or sawn timbers, generally between six-by-six to twelve-by-twelve inches in diameter. Side walls contain smaller dimension timbers for bracing and nailers, and common rafters were fashioned out of planks with a thickness of two or three inches and a depth between six and twelve inches depending upon the width of the barn.

Each of these structural elements is found in the barn the Foster brothers constructed. But unlike earlier barns almost none of the components are solid beams or posts: rather they are

<sup>5</sup> The existing pulley system is similar to the *Louden Standard Fork Carrier* patented in 1894 and advertised in the 1915 company catalog. Louden Machinery Company, *Louden Hay Unloading Tools Barn Door Hangers Specialties* (Fairfield, Iowa: Louden Machinery Company, 1915), 10.

<sup>6</sup> Trueman, 15.

<sup>7</sup> "King Ventilating Company" in *Sweet's Architectural Catalogue* (New York: Sweets Catalogue Service, Inc., 1920), 803.

**FOSTER BARN AT WINTERBERRY FARM**

**KENNEBEC COUNTY**  
County and State

Name of Property

made of two or three laminated two-by-six inch planks. The corner posts are two planks attached at right angles, the side wall and aisle posts are three plank thick as are the plates. The jack rafters and back rafters are fashioned of two planks and interior blocking, and the tie beam is three planks wide over the center aisle and two planks with block over the outer aisles. Rafters, wall studs and joists for the lofts are all single planks, as are the angle braces. The only solid timbers in the building, as far as could be seen, are the six-by-six girts between the center aisle posts.

In the period during which the Fosters were constructing their barn new designs in framing were emerging. These designs, promoted by agricultural experiment stations, state commissions, agricultural societies and lumber business, tended to favor gambrel or gothic roof barns and relied on the extensive use of braced rafters or trusses to build roof systems that did not require internal posts. The plank trusses in many of these designs were made up of relatively short pieces of dimensional lumber, often nailed or bolted together for strength. The designs were popularized by companies such as the Loudon Machinery Company, who manufactured barn equipment and sold the materials and patterns for barns, or the Gordon - Van Tine Company who published catalogs of barn designs. The Loudon Machinery Company took pains to illustrate how to make a "plank truss" in their catalog of 1914. At the same time, however the Radford Company, in their catalog of 1906 advertised both the newer barn forms and the more traditional post and beam units with collar ties and interior posts. As indicated by the specifications in the catalog the company's designers were still calling for heavy timbers to be utilized in the construction of their more traditional barns.

The Foster barn is an interesting mix of a tried-and-true barn frame using virtually nothing but two-by-six planks for the structural material. This combination, along with the building's plan and equipment, appears to reflect a willingness by the Foster brothers to embrace emerging technologies but at the same time retain a more traditional approach to frame design. Barns such as these help to illustrate the patterns of change for agricultural architecture in Maine.

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**Developmental history/additional historic context information (If appropriate.)**

The 1879 Atlas of Kennebec County indicates that "C. Foster" was located on the property. This was George Carpenter Foster, son of George H. and Judith Foster, an inn-keeper and deputy sheriff in Belgrade Lakes during the 1850s. George C. had worked manufacturing spools in Lowell, Massachusetts in the years prior to the Civil War and while there married another former Maine resident, Mary D. Greenleaf. The family appears to have returned to Maine sometime after son Francis "Frank" Chester (F. C.) was born in 1857 and before the taking of the 1860 census. After returning to Maine George and Mary bought a farm on the County Road in Belgrade and until his death in 1886 his profession was consistently as a farmer. Mary Foster died in 1899.

George C. and Mary Foster had two sons, F.C. and Edgar L. (E.L.) Foster. F.C. attended the Eastern State Normal School in Farmington, graduating in 1879. He taught briefly then, according to a history of the school, "learned the trade of machinist which he worked at five years, and then came home to take charge of the farm, which he has since carried on.

**FOSTER BARN AT WINTERBERRY FARM**

Name of Property

**KENNEBEC COUNTY**

County and State

Married, October 31, 1888, Susie E. Lord of Belgrade.<sup>8</sup> Even before F.C. Foster attended college his father had deeded him the farm in exchange for life rights and care for him, his horse, and the property until his death.<sup>9</sup> E. L. Foster worked the farm with his brother, who according to the 1892 Belgrade Directory, continued to practice as a machinist in addition to farming.

Little is known about when or why the Foster brothers built the barn now located at Winterberry Farm. According to local tradition this barn replaced an earlier barn that had burned. However, building the barn may have been undertaken in conjunction with a larger rebuilding project at the farm. A photograph on the cover of *Town of Belgrade* by Carl Yeaton shows the Foster family posed on the lawn of their property. In the background is a late-eighteenth century center chimney cape, and behind that is a new house – the current house – clearly under construction. Based on the ages of the children in the photograph, and the fact that Mary Foster is not in the picture, it was taken in 1900/1901. It is possible that the building episode was connected to the death of Mary Foster in 1899 and any inheritance that might have followed her passing.

Only one town assessment book is extant for the first decade of the twentieth century, and those that exist for the later nineteenth-century are missing the volumes that presumably included the Foster Brother. However, the 1902 tax assessment book indicates that the Foster Brothers had two horses, two swine, two oxen and a herd of fifteen cows.<sup>10</sup> This is an almost 100 percent increase in dairy livestock over the 1880 agricultural census for George H. Foster, who had only eight cows. However, F.C. and E.L.'s father's farm also had a flock of sheep including two dozen lambs.

After the deaths of the Foster brothers the property in 1951 was sold out of the family. Whether the activities of the subsequent owners included farming is unknown. In 2001 the farm, including the house and barn, were purchased by the current owner, who operates an animal-powered farm with organic certification and a community supported agriculture program.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

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<sup>8</sup> George C. Purington, *The History of the State Normal School, Farmington, Maine* (Farmington, Maine: Press of Knowlton, McLeary and Co., 1889), 113.

<sup>9</sup> George H. Foster to Francis C. Foster, Warranty Deed, 29 September 1873. Book 295 page 234, Kennebec County Registry of Deeds, Augusta, Maine. Interestingly the terms of the agreement for perpetual care did not mention Mary Foster, George's wife.

<sup>10</sup> There is a notation on the record that states "300 increase" and appears to refer to an increase in the value of the property. However, because neither earlier nor later records are available it is impossible to determine if this increase reflects the new house, a new barn or both.

**FOSTER BARN AT WINTERBERRY FARM**

**KENNEBEC COUNTY**

Name of Property

County and State

Carl Yeaton, et al. *Town of Belgrade : past and present pictures places people 1796-1996.*  
[Belgrade, Maine], 1995.

Deeds, various years. Kennebec County Registry of Deeds, Augusta, Maine.

Gordon - Van Tine Company. *Photographs and Letters.* Davenport, Iowa: Gordon - Van Tine Company, 1906.

King Ventilating Company. "King Ventilating Company." In *Sweet's Architectural Catalogue, 15th edition.*, 802-803. New York: Sweets Catalogue Service, Inc., 1920.

Louden Machinery Company. *Louden Hay Unloading Tools Barn Door Hangers Specialties.* Fairfield, Iowa: Loudon Machinery Company, 1915.

Louden Machinery Company. *Louden Barn Plans.* Fairfield, Iowa: Loudon Machinery Company, 1914.

Purinton, George C. *History of the State Normal School, Farmington, Maine.* Farmington: Press of Knowlton, McLeary & Co., 1889.

Radford, William A. Editor. *Radford's Combined House and Barn Plan Book.* Chicago: The Radford Architectural Co., 1908.

"Selected U.S. Federal Census Non-Population Schedules, 1850-1880 (Agricultural Products)." *Ancestry.* June 21, 1880. <http://search.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/sse.dll?ti=0&indiv=try&db=nonpopcensus&h=4047574> (accessed July 10, 2015).

*The Augusta, Hallowell, Gardiner and Kennebec County Directory.* Boston: Littlefield Directory Publishing Co., 1892/93.

*The Old Maps of Kennebec County, Maine in 1879.* Fryeburg, Maine: Saco Valley Printing, 1986.

Trueman, J. M. "The Dairy Stable." In *Maine Agriculture: Seventh Annual Report of the Commissioner of Agriculture of the State of Maine 1908*, by Commissioner A. W. Gilman, 13-17. Waterville: Sentinel Publishing Company, 1909.

Varney, Geo. J. *A Gazetteer of the State of Maine.* Boston: B.B. Russell, 1882.

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

**FOSTER BARN AT WINTERBERRY FARM**

Name of Property

**KENNEBEC COUNTY**

County and State

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): 035-0112a**

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreeage of Property Less than 1 acre**

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

Datum if other than WGS84:

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- |              |            |
|--------------|------------|
| 1. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 2. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 3. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 4. Latitude: | Longitude: |

**Or**

**UTM References**

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

- NAD 1927 or  NAD 1983

- |             |                 |                   |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Zone: 19 | Easting: 431950 | Northing: 4926786 |
| 2. Zone:    | Easting:        | Northing:         |
| 3. Zone:    | Easting:        | Northing:         |

**FOSTER BARN AT WINTERBERRY FARM**

**KENNEBEC COUNTY**  
County and State

Name of Property

4. Zone:

Easting:

Northing:

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The nomination for the Foster Barn at Winterberry Farm is limited to the barn itself and does not extend to the rest of the farm.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

While the farmstead at Winterberry Farm includes a c. 1900 house as well as agricultural fields the property does not have the characteristics of historic farm with any particular significance in the area of agriculture. Only the barn is architecturally significant, although the house does retain a high level of integrity.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: Christi A. Mitchell, Architectural Historian  
organization: Maine Historic Preservation Commission  
street & number: 55 Capitol Street  
city or town: Augusta state: Maine zip code: 04333-0065  
e-mail: christi.mitchell@maine.gov  
telephone: (207) 287-1453  
date: 15 July 2015

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**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

**FOSTER BARN AT WINTERBERRY FARM**

Name of Property

**KENNEBEC COUNTY**

County and State

**Photographs**

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

**Photo Log**

Name of Property: Foster Barn at Winterberry Farm  
 City or Vicinity: Belgrade  
 County: Kennebec State: Maine  
 Photographer: C. Mitchell  
 Date Photographed: June 19, 2015 (#'s 2 -4, 6, 7, 10-12) and March 25, 2015 (#'s 1, 5, 8, 9, 13).

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- 1 of 13 ME\_KENNEBEC COUNTY\_FOSTER BARN\_0001.TIF  
*West façade of barn; facing east.*
- 2 of 13 ME\_KENNEBEC COUNTY\_FOSTER BARN\_0002.TIF  
*West façade and south elevation; facing northeast.*
- 3 of 13 ME\_KENNEBEC COUNTY\_FOSTER BARN\_0003.TIF  
*South elevation and east elevation with door to tie-up; facing northwest. Note the ventilation shafts and the partial wall cladding.*
- 4 of 13 ME\_KENNEBEC COUNTY\_FOSTER BARN\_0004.TIF  
*South elevation showing ventilation shafts; facing northwest.*
- 5 of 13 ME\_KENNEBEC COUNTY\_FOSTER BARN\_0005.TIF  
*South aisle and hayloft (over tie-up) facing southwest. Note ventilation flue in background.*
- 6 of 13 ME\_KENNEBEC COUNTY\_FOSTER BARN\_0006.TIF  
*North aisle, westernmost bay; facing north.*

**FOSTER BARN AT WINTERBERRY FARM****KENNEBEC COUNTY**

County and State

Name of Property

- 7 of 13      **ME\_KENNEBEC COUNTY\_FOSTER BARN\_0007.TIF**  
*Detail of framing (vertical aisle post, collar-tie, jack-rafter) showing the built-up beams; facing north.*
- 8 of 13      **ME\_KENNEBEC COUNTY\_FOSTER BARN\_0008.TIF**  
*North wall, lower plane of roof with jack rafter, interior rafter, braces, curb plate and ventilation flue; facing north.*
- 9 of 13      **ME\_KENNEBEC COUNTY\_FOSTER BARN\_0009.TIF**  
*Interior of roof peak with ventilation flues feeding into exterior ventilation caps; facing northwest.*
- 10 of 13     **ME\_KENNEBEC COUNTY\_FOSTER BARN\_0010.TIF**  
*Tie-up in the south aisle; facing west.*
- 11 of 13     **ME\_KENNEBEC COUNTY\_FOSTER BARN\_0011.TIF**  
*Detail of manure trolley in south aisle; facing southwest.*
- 12 of 13     **ME\_KENNEBEC COUNTY\_FOSTER BARN\_0012.TIF**  
*Baffle and intake flange for ventilation flue; facing southwest.*
- 13 of 13     **ME\_KENNEBEC COUNTY\_FOSTER BARN\_0013.TIF**  
*Back (transverse) stable with four stalls; facing northeast.*

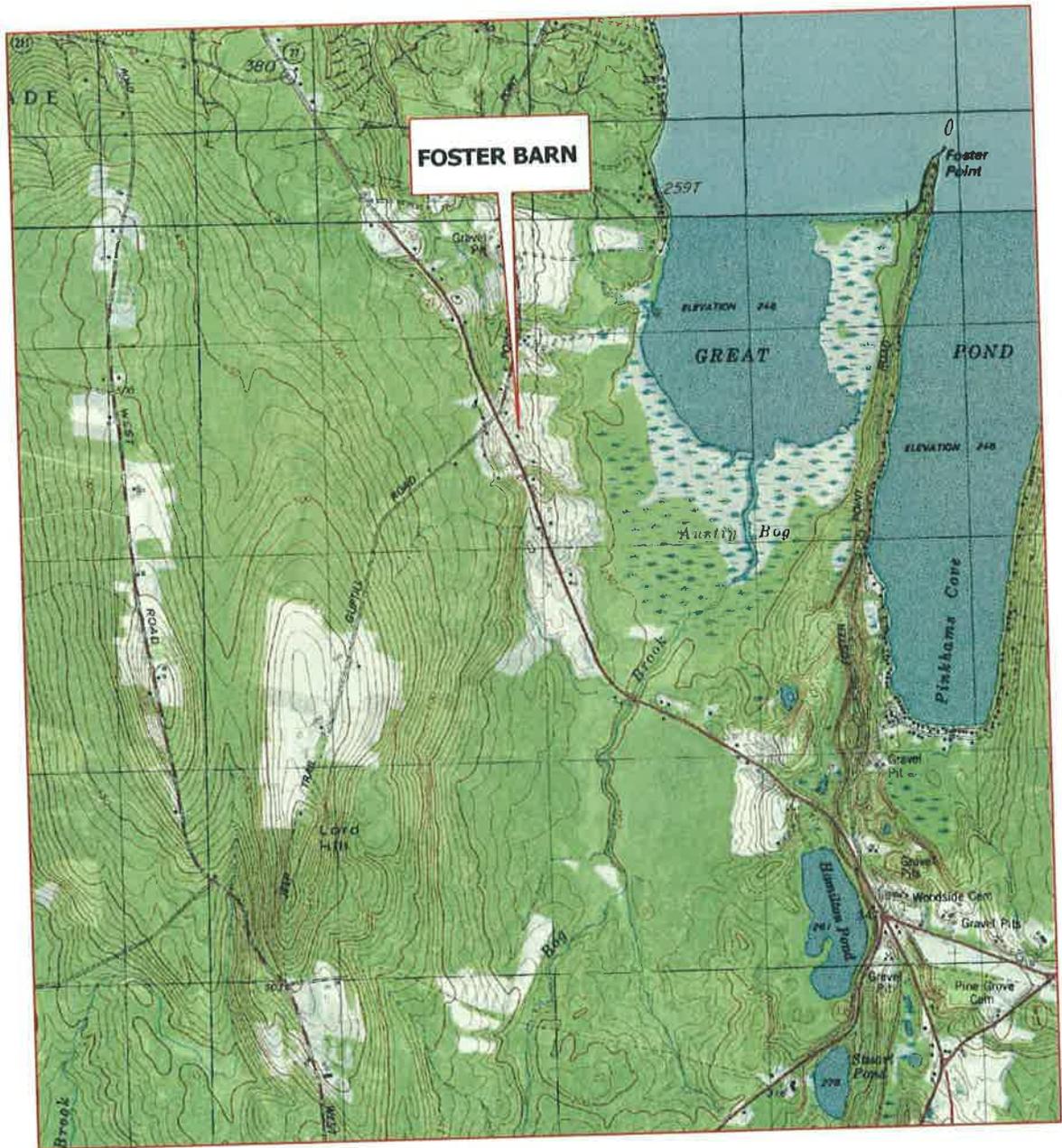
**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

**FOSTER BARN AT WINTERBERRY FARM**

Name of Property

**KENNEBEC COUNTY**  
County and State



**FOSTER BARN AT WINTERBERRY FARM**  
**KENNEBEC COUNTY, MAINE**  
**16 JUNE 2015**

UTMs NAD 83 19/ 431950 / 4926786

1000 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 feet













CSA SECTION

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